

PATENT SPECIFICATION

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DRAWINGS ATTACHED.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION.

A New or Improved Identification Device.

We, ALPA PLASTIC PRODUCTS LIMITED, a British company of 240-246 Maybank Road, London, E.18, and DAVID TEMPLE ARGENT, a British subject of 1 Shelley Grove, Loughton, Essex, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to identification devices of the kind comprising a flexible band or strap which is formed to be wrapped about a limb of the person to be identified or about a part of an article, the band being formed to carry a component on which can be inscribed details of the person or article.

In the following reference will for convenience be made to a device intended for use on persons so as to enable new-born infants or patients in a hospital to be identified but it will be understood that the device of this invention is capable of other uses.

The main object of the present invention is to provide a device which can easily be fitted but which when once fitted shall be held against easy unintentional removal.

According to the present invention an identification device comprises a band of flexible material on which a pair of pockets are provided adjacent one end, one of said pockets being superimposed above the other, and having a common dividing wall, and both pockets having open ends which extend transversely across the band, the end of the band remote from the pockets being formed to facilitate its passage through the pockets when the device is in use. Thus the band may be looped about a limb and the end of the band remote from the pockets threaded into the open end of the lower pocket which is adjacent the end of the

band, then folded back over the common dividing wall and passed through the other pocket in the reverse direction. The band is pulled about the limb to the required tightness and the projecting end of the folded part of the band cut-off if necessary.

The band is preferably formed between its ends to carry a slip of card or other material referred to herein as an "identification slip" on which can be imprinted details of the person. For this purpose the band may be provided with a transparent window piece on the same face of the band on which the upper pocket is provided and which forms with the band a third pocket which is open along one edge to receive the slip. Conveniently the width of the band is increased at that portion thereof where the third pocket is provided, to be of sufficient width for accommodating the details required and the third pocket may be arranged to open from the opposite face band to that on which the window piece is provided. Thus the mouth of the pocket will be closed by the limb of the wearer, which will act to retain the identification slip in position.

In a preferred arrangement the dividing wall between the two superimposed pockets extends beyond these mouths of the pockets which are adjacent the end of the band and forms the outer extremity of that end of the band.

The invention may be performed in various ways but one preferred embodiment will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:—

Figure 1 is a perspective view of the band as ready for use;

Figure 2 is an elevation of the band looking at its inner face; and

Figure 3 is a perspective view of the band in the form it assumes when it has been fitted to a limb.

Referring to the drawing the band is formed from a single length of flexible plastic material 1 to which two superimposed pieces of similar plastic material 3 and 4 are secured by means of welding along their longitudinal edges. These two pieces of material 3 and 4 act to provide a pair of pockets that formed between the material 3 and material 4 being superimposed above the other pocket which is formed between the material 3 and the material of the band itself, the piece of material 3 thus acting as a common dividing wall between the two pockets. Both pockets are open ended and have mouths which extend transversely across the band, the lower pocket having a mouth 5 which is adjacent the end of the band and a mouth 6 displaced therefrom, and the other pocket having a mouth 7 adjacent the end of the band and a mouth 8 displaced therefrom. As will be seen from Figure 1 and Figure 2 of the drawings the dividing wall extends beyond the mouths 5 and 7 of the pockets which are adjacent the ends of the band and forms the outer extremity of that end of the band, and the mouth 5 of the lower pocket is displaced from the adjacent end of the dividing wall to a greater extent than the corresponding mouth 7 of the upper pocket.

As is clearly shown in Figure 1 the mouth 6 of the lower pocket is displaced further from the end of the band than the corresponding mouth 8 of the upper pocket above it.

The width of the band is increased at a portion 9 adjacent the pocket and is provided with a transparent flexible window piece 10 which is attached by welding to the band around all four of its edges, as indicated by reference numeral 11. A slot 12 is formed in the band which acts as a mouth to the pocket which is formed between the transparent window piece and the material of the band itself and an identification slip in the form of a piece of card 13 bearing the appropriate information can be inserted into this third pocket through the opening 12. The end of the band remote from the pockets is formed as a pointed end 14 which is reinforced by a second thickness of stiff or semi-stiff material to provide rigidity.

In use an identification slip 13 is inserted into the third pocket through the aperture 12 and then the part 1 is passed about the limb of the person to which it is to be attached and the pointed end 14 passed through the lower pocket, entering it at the mouth 5 and leaving it at the mouth 6. The band is now pulled as tightly as is required about the limb, and the part 1 is then doubled back, as shown in Figure 3 and

passed through the outer pocket, entering it at the mouth 8 and leaving it at the mouth 7. Thus, the part 1 is folded about the common dividing wall and acts to hold the band securely in position on the wearer's limb. The end of the part 1 projecting from the outer pocket can now be cut away if desired.

It will be appreciated that the slip 13 will be prevented from escaping from the pocket in which it is housed because the opening 12 will be closed by the wearer's limb.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. An identification device comprising a band of flexible material on which a pair of pockets are provided adjacent one end, one of said pockets being superimposed above the other, and having a common dividing wall, and both pockets having open ends which extend transversely across the band, the end of the band remote from the pockets being formed to facilitate its passage through the pockets when the device is in use.

2. An identification device as claimed in Claim 1 in which the band is formed between its ends to receive an identification slip.

3. An identification device as claimed in Claim 2 in which the band is provided with a transparent window piece on the same face of the band as that on which the upper pocket is provided and which forms with the band a third pocket open along one transverse edge to receive the identification slip.

4. An identification device as claimed in Claim 3 in which the third pocket which is formed by the transparent window piece opens from the opposite face of the band to that on which the window piece is provided.

5. An identification device as claimed in Claim 3 or Claim 4 in which the width of the band is increased at that portion thereof where the third pocket is provided.

6. An identification device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims in which the dividing wall between the two superimposed pockets extends beyond those mouths of the pockets which are adjacent the end of the band and forms the outer extremity of that end of the band.

7. An identification device as claimed in Claim 6 in which the mouth of the lower pocket which is adjacent the end of the band is displaced from the adjacent end of the dividing wall to a greater extent than the corresponding mouth of the upper pocket.

8. An identification device as claimed in any one of the above claims in which the mouth of the lower pocket which is displaced from the end of the band is displaced further therefrom than the corresponding mouth of the upper pocket above it.

9. An identification device as claimed in any one of the preceding claims formed as a single length of flexible material to which two superimposed pieces of material are attached to provide the superimposed pockets, and to which a piece of flexible transparent material is attached to form the third pocket.
- 5 10. An identification device substantially as described and as shown in the accompanying drawings. 10

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1 SHEET

This drawing is a reproduction of
the Original on a reduced scale

